GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3628
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
BENEFIT TO AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES DUE TO OPENING OF NATHU LA-PASS
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Agro and Rural Industries are likely to be benefited from China due to the opening of Nathu-La- Pass; and

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES(SHRI SANJAYA GAUTAM)

(a) & (b): During the visit of Prime Minister to China from June, 22-27, 2003, India and China signed, inter-alia, a Memorandum of Expanding Border Trade. It adds another Pass on the India-China border and sets up an additional point on each side for border trade. The two sides agreed to use Nathula as the Pass for entry and exit of persons, means of transport and commodities engaged in border trade. Although the details about items for export to and import from china through Nathula Pass are not included in this Memorandum, the growth in exports to China is likely to benefit domestic industries, including the Agro and Rural Industries.